

# Healthier

WINTER 2012

VETERANS' NEWS



WASHINGTON DC  
VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER  
CAPITOL ★ EXCELLENCE

# FEATURES

## MEDICAL CENTER WELCOMES ITS NEW DIRECTOR



**Brian A. Hawkins, MHA, Medical Center Director**

Brian A. Hawkins, MHA, joined the Washington DC VA Medical Center (DCVAMC) September 25. As its Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Hawkins leads one of the largest and most visible VA health systems in the nation. The hospital is growing significantly both at its main facility, where more than 70 construction projects are underway and at its five community based outpatient clinics, now located in Southeast, DC; Greenbelt, MD; Ft. Belvoir, VA; Southern Prince George's County (Camp Springs, MD) and Charlotte Hall, MD. As 2011 came to a close, nearly 90,000 Veterans were enrolled for care at the Medical Center and there were more than one-million unique patient visits in the year.

In his first few months, Mr. Hawkins initiated several processes to enhance patient services and to improve communications. These include the "Capitol Excellence" initiative (see page 6), monthly One-on-One sessions for Veterans and employees, new employee incentive and development programs, weather protection for patients awaiting shuttle buses and cars from Valet Parking and uniform changes for VA Police officers who work at the entrances of the facility.

His "Director's Weekly Message" keeps staff apprised of facility activities and acknowledges staff members who provide outstanding patient-centered care.

Mr. Hawkins, who began his career with the Department of Veterans Affairs as a Clerk/Typist, has held many positions as he moved up the ranks. Most recently he was Medical Center Director at the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Previously, he served as Associate Director and Chief Operating Officer of the VA Maryland Healthcare System, the Associate Director and Site Manager for the Perry Point VA Medical Center, the Business Office Director at VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System, Associate Chief Financial Officer at the Atlanta VA Medical Center and Senior Budget Analyst at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago, IL. He began his career at Chicago's Hines VA Medical Center.

Mr. Hawkins is enthusiastic about his new challenge. "My career has been dedicated to serving our country's Veterans. I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with the dedicated staff of the Washington DC VA Medical Center, providing quality care to Veterans of our nation's capital. It's a privilege and an honor."

Mr. Hawkins holds a Bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University and a Master's of Health Administration from Governors State University. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Senior Executives Association, the American Pilot and Aircraft Owners Association and is currently an Adjunct Professor at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, OK. Mr. Hawkins served eight years in the Illinois Army National Guard.



## PEP RALLY KICKS-OFF NEW MEDICAL CENTER INITIATIVE: "CAPITOL EXCELLENCE"



(L to R) Brian Hawkins, Medical Center Director; Natalie Merckens, Assistant Medical Center Director; Michael Dunfee, Associate Medical Center Director and Kathleen Barry, Chief Nurse Executive at the Capitol Excellence Pep Rally.

Chants of “Capitol Excellence Begins with Me” echoed through the atrium of the Washington DC VA Medical Center, on December 1, as executive leadership joined staff and Veterans to launch the “Capitol Excellence” campaign.

The festive pep rally served as the backdrop for new Medical Center Director, Brian A. Hawkins’ vision for the hospital. The “Capitol Excellence” theme ushers in new leadership and charges staff to achieve increased patient satisfaction through employee engagement, operational excellence and cultural transformation.

Employee engagement centers on building camaraderie and accountability, workplace pride, teamwork and professional development. Operational excellence will be achieved through a review of current processes and operations to ensure they make effective use of resources and enhance business practices leading to outstanding performance. Cultural transformation addresses the “look and feel” of the Medical Center and the experience Veterans have when they walk through the doors. Veterans and staff should experience an environment that is patient-centered, clean, attractive and welcoming, makes best use of the space and of technology.

The transformation has already begun with the selection of a new Medical Center logo, light pole banners and improved signage, ground-breaking construction for a new Research building and a new parking garage, the opening of two new Community Based Clinics (Ft. Belvoir and Southern Prince George’s County), the enhanced outpatient Pharmacy and expanded Telehealth services. The new year promises to be exciting as DCVAMC works toward achieving its “Capitol Excellence” goals.





## MILLION VETERAN PROGRAM: A PARTNERSHIP WITH VETERANS TO REVOLUTIONIZE HEALTH CARE

The Washington DC VA Medical Center is one of 50 VA Medical Centers selected across the nation to serve as an enrollment site for the Million Veteran Program (MVP), a research program that will help us better understand how genes affect Veterans' health and illness. The ultimate goal of the program is to transform health care.

The Million Veteran Program (MVP): A partnership with Veterans, is a national, voluntary research program conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Research & Development. MVP aims to enroll as many as one million Veterans over the next five to seven years. Participants will be asked to complete a one-time study visit (approx. 20 minutes in length) to provide a blood sample for genetic analysis. Participation also includes filling out health surveys, allowing ongoing access to medical records and agreeing to future contact. This research program will establish one of the largest databases of genes and health history.

By participating in MVP, Veterans will help contribute to the knowledge base that may result in developing personalized treatments for military-related illnesses, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as more common illnesses, like diabetes and heart disease. Results from MVP will help improve health care for Veterans and all Americans. MVP has extensive safeguards in place to keep Veterans personal information secure and confidential. Participation will not affect access to health care or benefits. Visit the website of the Million Veteran Program at [www.research.va.gov/mvp](http://www.research.va.gov/mvp) to learn more. For more information or to participate, call toll-free 866-441-6075.

## FOOD DRIVE WILL HELP VETERANS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



**Kevin Morton, Coordinator, Health Care for Homeless Veterans, stocks the food pantry with donations received during the Fall Food drive.**

The VA Medical Center Food Pantry is now stocked to capacity, thanks to the generosity of our staff and members of the national capital community. More than 500 pounds of non-perishables and toiletries were donated in DCVAMC collection bins placed throughout the Medical Center, at VA Central Office, in area VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics and Vet Centers, as well as Henry's Soul Café restaurants. The pantry is managed by the Medical Center's Health Care for Homeless Veterans program. Any Veteran in need may visit the pantry once per month. For information or to donate contact 202-745-8000, ext. 7843.



## A FORMER POW'S TWIST OF FATE: A FEW ACTS OF KINDNESS LED TO A LONG LIFE OF HAPPINESS

By Sarah H. Cox, Public Affairs Specialist



Sometimes life's worst moments lead to the best things in life. At least that was the case for former WWII POW, William Tippins, who receives his care at the Washington DC VA Medical Center.

In February 1944, as part of the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion, the 20-year old Pfc was blown from his foxhole in Anzio, Italy. When he came to, a German soldier was standing over

him speaking in perfect English, "For you the war is over." Tippins who had received a severe abdominal wound, thought the German would shoot him on sight. But to his surprise the German gave him a choice, "I can kill you now or you can try to walk to the aid station, three kilometers away." The German soldier was actually an American from St. Louis, Missouri who had been visiting family in Germany when the war broke out.

Opting of course to walk, the soldier filled Tippins' canteen instructing him to pour water on the intestines protruding from the wound every ten minutes. Tippins used the water as instructed and survived the walk over rough terrain. He was later transferred to a German field hospital near Rome.

Although still badly wounded, he managed to escape from the hospital only to be recaptured 72 hours later. He was then sent to Stalag VII-A in Mooseburg, Germany where they stenciled his clothing with a black diamond and a red circle, marking him a former escapee and/or troublemaker.

While in Stalag VII-A, he was unable to keep down his prisoner food rations and his weight dropped dramatically. His health continued to deteriorate, landing him in a field hospital in Fuerstenwalde, Germany.

In the hospital, he met a young volunteer. She spoke no English and he spoke no German, but they struck up a secret friendship nonetheless. He

nicknamed her "Pinky" because the German winter caused her cheeks to stay a permanent bright pink color. At great risk to herself, Pinky began smuggling him white bread from home. It must have been some really good bread, because after only a few days of it he regained his strength and was transferred to Luckenwald POW camp.

At Luckenwald, he escaped again, but weighing only 103 pounds, his appearance evidently drew too much attention and he was taken back into custody. They took away his boots and placed him in solitary confinement where he remained until the Russians liberated the camp in April 1945.

After returning home, he tried to block out the bad memories and move forward, but he quickly became bored and frustrated. He never forgot the German girl with the rosy cheeks who risked her life to help keep him alive. He joined the Air Force and was sent back to Germany as an investigator for the Office of Special Investigations.

He was working with the German Police who were managing the hotels for refugees. One night, a young lady came in looking for a room. He walked up behind her and said "Pinky". She recognized him instantly although he wasn't sure how, he looked a lot different from the ill, bearded, 100-pound POW he had been two years before. They hugged each other and talked for hours. Up until then, he hadn't realized how much of the German language he had learned.

He and Pinky were married several months later. Some things are just meant to be and being a POW is the price he paid to meet his soul mate. They raised a family and he served the Air Force for another 20 years. He retired in 1965 as a Chief Master Sergeant, the highest enlisted rank in the Air Force. For 57 years he called her Pinky-- until her death in 2003.

This past Veterans Day, at the WWII Memorial in DC, a "*Stars and Stripes*" reporter asked him if he had any advice for soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. He replied, "Just try to block out the bad memories best you can so you can move forward."

Despite William Tippins' brutal war experiences, his life was full of joy and love with his Pinky. Evidently, he follows his own advice.



## WINTERHAVEN HOMELESS STAND DOWN: A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

The Winterhaven Stand Down for Homeless and at-risk Veterans, held Jan 21 at the VA Medical Center had a new and vitally important focus this year - averting homelessness. This proactive, preventative event is part of the Department of Veterans Affairs' initiative to end Veteran Homelessness by the year 2015. It involves building strong, successful working relationships with city, county and federal agencies for education, employment and housing.

More than 70 agencies and community groups joined Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric K. Shinseki, to help the 490 Winterhaven participants from the DC metropolitan area.

New to this year's event were: D.C. Hunger Solutions who provided SNAP/Food Stamp screening and application assistance; Elevate America, a Microsoft-sponsored endeavor which pairs qualified Veterans with free computer training; and the Fairfax County Department of Family Services Skill Source Center provided vouchers for free-online computer certification training.

Support Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) offered a variety of programs for at-risk Veterans including a month's rent, utility cut-off prevention and arrearages assistance. The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and several Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) helped with VA benefits claims.

Winterhaven participants also received medical and mental health care, employment support, housing services, legal counseling, hot meals, warm clothing, comfort kits, haircuts, Google voice cards and referrals for clothing at local thrift stores.

Medical screenings included cholesterol, Hepatitis C and HIV. Flu and Pneumonia shots were offered, as well as eye and dental exams. Consultative services offered include podiatry, infectious diseases, mental health and women's health.

More than 400 people volunteered for the event. Many community leaders and Congressional staff members toured the event.







## DCVAMC ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!

Don't worry if you don't have an account, anyone can visit our Facebook and Twitter pages for the latest information on upcoming events happening at DCVAMC!

CHECK IT OUT TO LEARN MORE! [WWW.FB.ME/WASHINGTONDCVAMC](http://WWW.FB.ME/WASHINGTONDCVAMC)  
AND TWITTER: [WWW.TWITTER.COM/WASHINGTONDCVAMC](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/WASHINGTONDCVAMC)

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## COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND REFERRAL CENTER

In late April, the Washington DC VA Medical Center (DCVAMC) will open the doors to its new Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC), creating a community hub to combat homelessness among Veterans. The new CRRC is the first of its kind in the metropolitan DC area. The CRRC will centralize services, such as healthcare, housing, employment, benefits and education—into a collaborative center located in the heart of our capital city.

VA's efforts to provide services to homeless and at-risk Veterans are supported by many federal agencies and community organizations. The CRRC will bring these diverse agencies under one roof. For example, case workers who specialize in HUD-VASH housing vouchers, DCVAMC Healthcare for Homeless Veterans program specialists, Veterans Benefits Administration representatives, as well as vocational rehabilitation specialists, and mental health counselors will be based there.

According to Dr. Fuad Issa, the Community Resource and Referral Center's Medical Director, having comprehensive services in one location is especially beneficially to Veterans at risk for homelessness. "Homelessness is often a consequence of multiple factors and Veterans benefit by having a one-stop shop to address those issues." Co-locating agencies ensures that Veterans have easy access to the recovery-oriented services they need.

The Center, located at 1500 Franklin St. N.E. in Washington, D.C. has easy access to public transportation and will be open seven days a week, 24 hours a day. It will link Veterans and their families to resources aimed at ending homelessness and promoting community reintegration, and play a crucial role in helping VA reach its goal of ending homelessness among Veterans by the year 2015. A grand opening celebration is scheduled for late April.



**The new CRRC boasts 12,906 square feet of space to help homeless and at risk Veterans. It is scheduled to open in late April.**

## CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY GROWTH

The VA Medical Center is growing to meet the needs of Capital area Veterans and changes abound on our campus. A number of projects have already been completed like the new Fisher House, GI suite update, and the new circular door at the front entrance. We also have opened two new Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) – the Southern Prince George's County CBOC in Camp Springs, MD near Joint Base Andrews and the VA-Ft. Belvoir CBOC located in the new Community Hospital right on base. We have also expanded the Charlotte Hall CBOC by adding a free-standing modular unit.

Many major projects are underway such as the \$9 million project to transform the 4C Wing into a patient ward with private rooms; the Women's Pavilion, and a new off-site Community Resource and Referral Center. A beautiful new outpatient pharmacy, relocated to be accessible from the main atrium, will open late February.

Several other spaces within the Medical Center are receiving much needed renovation and will be enlarged, these include: Radiology, Research, Dental, the Emergency Department and Operating Suites.

One of the latest projects to break ground is a new three story parking garage located just across from the main entrance of the Medical Center. It is scheduled to open next year. During construction, Veterans may use the free Valet Parking or park in any Veteran/Visitor designated lots around the campus. Although we understand that our growing pains may cause you inconvenience, with each development we hope you will appreciate an improved experience at our Medical Center.



**The new parking garage will have three stories of parking spaces for Veterans and their family members. It is scheduled to open in 2013.**



## HOMELESS VETERANS SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

To say Marion Bass-Dyer has had her ups and downs would be an understatement. But 2012 is proving to be her best year in a very long time, thanks to the VA's Homeless Veterans Supported Employment Program (HVSEP).

HVSEP is a program within the VA's Compensated Work Therapy Program (CWT). It is a temporary work assignment which helps Veterans prepare for permanent employment in the future and it is incorporated into Veterans' treatment plans. The main criteria for participation in VA's Homeless Veterans Supported Employment Program is homelessness and the desire to have a permanent job.



The program has been a lifeline for many homeless Veterans like Ms. Bass-Dyer. In 2000, Bass-Dyer lost her home to foreclosure. She was caring for a school-age child and her mother at the time. She was forced to split-up her small family and moved in with a family member. In spite of having a good education, she has a B.A from Rutgers University and a M.S. from George Washington University, Bass-Dyer found herself at a loss for permanent employment and was only sporadically employed and without a home of her own.

After 10 years of trying to make it on her own, living in a car for some of that time, Bass-Dyer, a former Army enlisted and commissioned officer, finally set foot in a VA Medical Center. She came to DCVAMC seeking medical treatment after losing her private medical insurance. The staff at the Women's Clinic cared for her and immediately referred her to the Medical Center's Health Care for Homeless Veterans program, setting her on the positive path she is on today, a path to healthy living and financial independence.

This past July, she began participating in HVSEP, helping other homeless Veterans find work. She spends a good part of her day researching community resources and building relationships.

In spite of all the losses in her life, Bass-Dyer remains upbeat and has a frequent, friendly smile. She has good reason to feel happy. This past November, she moved into her own apartment with a HUD/VASH voucher.

Bass-Dyer is inspiration to Veterans in the DCVAMC's homeless programs. She is certain that her experience being homeless helps her help others. "I feel so blessed, she says, I love coming to the Medical Center every day. I feel like I'm where I was supposed to be".



### My Capitol VA Phone App Launched

The Medical Center launched the My Capitol VA app February 1, putting a wealth of information about the hospital and wellness in the palms of Veterans' hands. The new app is free and contains information on wellness, a directory of important phone numbers, and way-finding maps. For downloading My Capitol VA for the iPhone, visit the iTunes store, search for My Capitol VA, and select the application. Then select the free button and then the install button. For downloading My Capitol VA for the Droid, visit the Droid Market, search for My Capitol VA, and select the application. Then download the application.



**Dr. Richard Rosse,**  
Chief, Psychiatry

## MEDICAL CENTER'S CHIEF OF PSYCHIATRY NAMED A TOP DOCTOR

Dr. Richard B. Rosse, the Medical Center's Chief of Psychiatry, has been selected as a "Top Doctor" by U.S. News & World Report magazine. The U.S. News Top Doctors list was developed in collaboration with Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., publisher of America's Top Doctors to help consumers find the doctors who can best address their needs.



**Heidi Maloni,**  
PhD, ANP-BCA  
Washington DC

## NURSE PRACTITIONER HONORED FOR EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

VA Medical Center nurse has been honored by Washingtonian magazine with a 2011 Excellence in Nursing Award. Heidi Maloni, who serves in the Neurology Department as the National Clinical Nursing Director for Multiple Sclerosis Center of Excellence, East, was also featured in the December issue of Washingtonian. Maloni is no stranger to accolades this year, she was honored with the Secretaries Award for Advanced Practice Nursing Excellence in 2011 at both the Medical Center and VISN level and also received the State Award as best NP in Washington DC.



**Dr. Gregory Trachiotis,** Chief,  
Cardiac Surgery

## MORE ACCOLADES FOR DCVAMC SURGEON

Dr. Gregory Trachiotis, DCVAMC's Chief, Cardiac Surgery, was named a "Super Doctor" for Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery in the DC, Baltimore and Northern Virginia areas by Super Doctors Magazine. Super Doctors evaluates candidates on 10 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement including: experience, hospital appointments, fellowships, professional activities, leadership, academic positions and more.



## A WASHINGTON DCVAMC SPECIALTY: THYROID GLAND ILLNESS

By Dr. Kenneth Becker, Chief, Endocrinology

A very large number of our Veteran patients have disorders of the thyroid gland, a small organ in the neck that has a very important role in the body. This gland can affect weight, body temperature, heart function, pulse rate, body perspiration, respiration, and multiple other body functions. Also, the thyroid gland can become overactive. This is called hyperthyroidism and it commonly causes weight loss, tremor, and rapid heartbeat. An underactive thyroid gland is called hypothyroidism. This condition often causes weight gain, forgetfulness, excessive sleeping, dry skin, and sometimes dangerous effects on breathing. When the thyroid becomes enlarged, it is called a goiter. Often, the thyroid gland becomes nodular. Usually, these are benign, but sometimes they are cancerous.

Here at the Washington DC VA Medical Center we have physicians, nurses, and other health care workers who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid disease. They work closely together as a team. The medical, surgical, radiography, and nuclear medicine staff on our campus are well trained and very well equipped to handle all thyroid problems. If you have concerns about your thyroid health, please contact your primary care provider.



## TWO NEW COMMUNITY CLINICS FOR VETERANS

### ON BASE AT FT. BELVOIR

The new VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) at the Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital is an outstanding example of VA-DOD coordination of care and resources. The 10,000 square foot facility replaced the Alexandria, Virginia CBOC. The VA-Ft. Belvoir CBOC provides basic medical care, preventive care, comprehensive women's health care and health education for eligible Veterans. Telehealth services are also provided.

The VA-Ft. Belvoir CBOC is located on 9300 DeWitt Loop inside the Sunrise Pavilion. Veterans may access Ft. Belvoir through the main entrance (Tulley Gate) with their VA identification card. Those taking public transportation may take the yellow Metro line to the Huntington Metro station and then transfer to the REX bus (Richmond Highway Express) to access the base.



The VA's Ft. Belvoir Clinic is located inside the Sunrise Pavilion on the Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital Campus.

### SOUTHERN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Quality VA Health Care is now available in Southern Prince George's County. The newly constructed Southern Prince George's County VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) is located at 5801 Allentown Road, just across the street from Joint Base Andrews. It is easily accessible from the Capital Beltway, Branch Ave. (MD-5) or Suitland Parkway.

At over 10,000 square feet, the Southern PG County CBOC offers a variety of health care services including: primary and preventative care, comprehensive women's health care, audiology, mental health and Telehealth services to eligible Veterans. Bringing health care closer to where Veterans live improves access to health services for Veterans, retired military and active duty military personnel transitioning to VA care.

Soon the Southern PG County CBOC will begin to offer audiology services and will also open a state-of-the art Dental Clinic — a first for Washington DC VA Medical Center's (DCVAMC) health care system.



The newest VA Clinic is conveniently located in Southern Prince George's County.

Both CBOC's are open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. To make an appointment, call the DCVAMC Patient Service Center at 202-745-8577.



50 Irving Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20422

## COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC) AND OUTREACH (VET) CENTERS

VA - Ft. Belvoir Community Clinic..... 571-231-2408  
9300 DeWitt Loop, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060

VA Community Clinic-Greenbelt..... 301-345-2463  
7525 Greenway Center Dr., Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

VA Community Clinic-Southeast ..... 202-745-8685  
820 Chesapeake St. S.E., Washington, DC 20032

Southern Maryland VA Outpatient Clinic..... 301-884-7102  
29431 Charlotte Hall Rd., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

Southern PG County Community Clinic ..... 301-423-3700  
5801 Allentown Rd., Camp Springs, MD 20746

Alexandria Vet Center..... 703-360-8633  
6940 South Kings Hwy., Suite 204, Alexandria, VA 22310

Silver Spring Vet Center ..... 301-589-1073  
1015 Spring St., Suite 101, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Princes George's County Vet Center ..... 301-856-7173  
7905 Malcolm Rd. Clinton, MD 20735

Washington, DC Vet Center ..... 202-726-5212  
1250 Taylor St., N.W., Washington, DC 20011

## DCVAMC FREQUENTLY USED NUMBERS

Washington DCVAMC..... 202-745-8000

Emergency Room..... 202-745-8360

Crisis Hotline..... 1-800-273-Talk (8255)

Medical Advice Line..... 202-745-8247 (*Your 24-hour, seven days a week link to expert medical advice*)

Appointment Line..... 1-877-DCVAMC1 (328-2621) toll-free

OEF/OIF Help-Line..... 1-877-OIFOEF1 (1-877-643-6331)

Pharmacy Refill..... 202-745-4046

Pharmacy Questions..... 202-745-8235

Patient Advocate Office.... 202-745-8588

## PATIENT SERVICE CENTER (PSC) HOURS:

Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The PSC helps you manage your appointments. Call 1-877-DCVAMC1 (1-877-328-2621) or local 202-745-8577. It's a one-stop call for scheduling, changing and canceling appointments.



## MANAGE YOUR HEALTH CARE FROM HOME

Next time you have an appointment at DCVAMC, be sure and stop by the My HealtheVet kiosk in the atrium lobby to quickly register for the My HealtheVet program.



Once registered, you'll immediately be able to manage your health care on-line in the comfort of your own home.

From the My HealtheVet website you will be able to:

Manage appointments

Refill prescriptions

Check co-pay balances

Review parts of your medical record and much more!

To enroll in My HealtheVet, call the Eligibility Office, 202-745-8000, ext.7982, or visit <http://www.myhealth.va.gov>

she  
earned  
these.

It's **our job** to give **her**  
the best care anywhere.



WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE



**DCVAMC PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE. PLEASE PHONE 202-745-8582 FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

Visit the DCVAMC website: [WWW.WASHINGTONDC.VA.GOV](http://WWW.WASHINGTONDC.VA.GOV)

Visit us on **Facebook**. Follow us on **Twitter**.

View the latest on: health, veteran programs, activities and special events, jobs, volunteer opportunities, visitor information, benefits and much more!

You're the reason we're here, so let's hear from you!

Do you have a suggestion to help us improve our service? Would you like to send a compliment to a DCVAMC employee? Or, do you have a specific subject you'd like to see in Healthier Veterans' News?

Send your letters to Office of Public Affairs (003)

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